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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~use switchover to standby of transmission facilities in packet-oriented transmission of data packets, the data packets comprising packet headers that include priority information, the priority information identifying the data packets as high priority data packets or as low priority data packets, the method comprising:~~

~~transmitting a multiplicity of the data packets belonging to different connections in accordance with an Internet Protocol (IP packets) via at least one of a first transmission facility and a redundant second transmission facility, the second transmission facility being redundant arranged redundantly to first the transmission facility, the data packets being transmitted in accordance with Internet Protocol (IP);~~

~~including a prioritization information item with each packet in a part of the packet header; wherein transmitting the data packets comprises:~~

~~identifying which of the data packets are low priority data packets and which of the data packets are high priority data packets based on the priority information;~~

~~transmitting the high priority data packets via the first transmission facility;~~

~~transmitting the low priority data packets via the second transmission facility;~~

switching transmission of the high priority data packets from the first transmission facility to the second transmission facility if there is a problem with the first transmission facility; and

discarding low priority packets when high priority packets are transmitted via the second transmission facility

~~conducting a packet either via the transmission facility or the redundant transmission facility, as determined by the prioritization information; and~~

~~conducting a packet determined by the prioritization information item for the transmission facility to the redundant transmission facility when there is a disturbance of the transmission facility.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the priority prioritization information item is ~~included in the~~ a TOS field of the ~~at least some of the packet headers~~ header in the differentiated services concept.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein, prior to switching, only the low priority packets ~~with a lower priority~~ are ~~conducted~~ transmitted via the ~~redundant~~ second transmission facility.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

allocating high priority data packets and low priority data packets for transmission via the first and second transmission facilities based on predetermined utilizations of the first and second transmission facilities ~~changing the prioritization based on a capacity utilization determination of the transmission facility.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the ~~transmission facility and redundant transmission facility are constructed as junction~~ first and second transmission facilities comprise junction lines.

7. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the problem comprises a fault that affects data packet transmission via the first transmission facility.

8. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the first and second transmission facilities are associated with first and second queues, respectively; and
wherein the predetermined utilizations of the first and second transmission facilities correspond to fill levels of the first and second queues, respectively.

9. (New) A system for use in transmission of data packets, the data packets comprising packet headers that include priority information, the priority information identifying the data packets as high priority data packets or as low priority data packets, the system comprising:

a filter to receive the data packets, the filter being configured to identify which of the data packets are low priority data packets and which of the data packets are high priority data packets based on the priority information, and to output the data packets;

a first queue to receive high priority data packets output by the filter;

a second queue to receive low priority data packets output by the filter; and

a switch configured to

direct the high priority data packets from the first queue to a first transmission facility;

direct the low priority data packets from the second queue to a second transmission facility;

re-direct the high priority data packets from the first queue to the second transmission facility if there is a problem with the first transmission facility; and

discard low priority packets after high priority packets are re-directed to the second transmission facility.

10. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the priority information is in a TOS of at least some of the packet headers.

11. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the first and second transmission facilities comprise junction lines.

12. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the problem comprises a fault that affects data packet transmission via the first transmission facility.

13. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the first and second queues comprise first and second buffers, respectively.

14. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the data packets are transmitted in accordance with Internet Protocol (IP).